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BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FOR THE

OREGON SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

FROM MARCH 8, 1883, TO JAN. 1, 1885.



SALEM, OREGON.

W. H. BYARS, STATE PRINTER.

1885.

REPORT.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
SALEM, OREGON, January 1, 1885.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

GENTLEMEN—As required by law, we have the honor to transmit herewith the Biennial Report of the Superintendent of the Oregon School for the Blind, giving the condition, expense account, the progress and practical workings of the school, from March 8, 1883, to January 1, 1885, including the Report of the Visiting Physician, for the same period; and we would earnestly recommend the appropriations mentioned in the report, by the Superintendent of the School.

Respectfully,

Z. F. MOODY, Governor,
R. P. EARHART, Sec'y of State,
E. B. McELROY, Supt. Pub. Inst'n.
State Board of Education.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Z. F. MOODY.....Governor.
R. P. EARHART.....Secretary of State.
E. B. McELROY.....Sup't of Public Instruction.

OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.

C. E. MOOR.....Superintendent and Principal.
L. L. ROWLAND.....Physician.
MRS. C. E. MOOR.....Matron.
MISS H. M. HOLMAN.....Teacher of Music and Needle Work.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable, the State Board of Education:

In 1872, the Legislature of the State of Oregon passed the following law:

"Sec. 1. There be, and is hereby, appropriated the sum of four thousand dollars, gold coin, out of any money in the State treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to be expended for the education of blind persons of this State.

"Sec. 2. That said sum be expended under the direction of the State Board of Education, and full discretion is hereby given to said Board, or a majority thereof, to rent such buildings, employ such teachers, purchase such books, and provide for boarding and lodging the scholars as they deem best to carry out the provisions of this act. *Provided*, They do not, in any case, exceed the appropriation herein made.

"Sec. 3. The State Treasurer is hereby authorized, and required, to pay the said sum of \$4,000, in coin, upon the requisition of the said Board of Education, in the mode and manner provided by law for paying appropriations.

"Sec. 4. The said Board shall report their official proceedings under this act, to the Legislature, at each general or special session.

"Approved Oct. 26, 1872."

The school was first opened Feb. 26, 1873, with two pupils and Miss Nellie Simpson as teacher.

The second year commenced Oct. 7th, 1873, with Rev. J. H. Babcock as Principal, and Miss Dora Hernandez as teacher of music.

The Legislature of 1874 made another appropriation of \$4,000 for the support of the school, and the September term commenced with nine pupils and Chas. H. Kaiser as Principal and music teacher.

The Legislature of 1876 made the usual appropriation of \$4,000, and Mrs. Jennie E. Dawne was appointed Principal in the spring of

1877. Under Mrs. Dawne's management, the school was prosperous, and the Legislature increased the appropriation to \$5,000. This was but partially expended, as the school was open but a portion of the time, it being closed in May, 1879, and remained closed for four years.

In 1882, an appropriation of \$8,000 was made, and the Oregon School for the Blind was placed, by the Board of Education, under its present management, March 8, 1883.

The Snowden building on 12th street was rented for the use of the school, being the most suitable that could be obtained in the city of Salem for that purpose, paying for the said building \$600 annually, and all necessary improvements and repairs are made at the expense of the State. The water pipes connecting the house with the Court street main had become rusty and useless and were replaced at an expense of \$176. The house was refurnished at a further expense of \$104.49.

The school was opened on the 16th of April 1883, with Mrs. J. M. Patterson as music teacher. Mrs. Patterson remained only one term, when Miss H. M. Holman was employed, and she holds the position at the present time. I believe Miss Holman to be a skillful teacher of music.

Seven quarters of school have been taught, and thirteen different pupils received. Books were furnished and instruction was given to another blind person (James Grames) who learned to read the Moon system.

The pupils during the two years were:

MALES.

D. H. BREWER.....	Marion County.
BENNIE WHITAKER.....	Lane "
C. H. MILLER.....	Curry "
JAMES GRAMES ...	Marion "
GILBERT J. MCGINN.....	Multnomah "
FREDRIC COOPER.....	" "

FEMALES.

LOU. LEWIS.....	Benton County.
JOSIE WATKINS.....	Linn "
BLANCHE SAVAGE.....	Marion "
MARY BAKER.....	" "
AMY WALLING.....	Polk "
NANCY CROWLEY.....	" "

SADIE BRISTOW.....	Polk County.
H. S. CAROUTHERS.....	Linn “

Six males and eight females: in all, fourteen.

The branches taught are the common English, including Physiology, Natural and Theoretical Philosophy and History, together with a thorough course in Vocal and Instrumental Music.

Some attention has been given to industrial work, but this department is not fully organized owing to lack of funds. There has been presented to the school a very good sewing machine by Mrs. Gov. Moody, and a Bible of eight volumes, in line print, by Mrs. Clara Skinner, a blind lady of Portland.

There have also been received from the American Printing House, of Louisville, Ky., (an institution endowed by the United States government) thirty-nine volumes of text and miscellaneous books in raised print, without cost except for transportation.

The old piano which belonged to the school had become nearly useless, and has been exchanged for a very good new one at a cost of \$300.

The expenditures to Jan. 1, 1885, were as follows:

EXPENDITURES.

NAME.	NO. VOUCHER	FOR WHAT DRAWN.	AMOUNT
Jin Chinaman	1	House cleaning and gardening...	\$ 15 00
T. H. Wilson	2	Wood, ...	12 00
W. W. Martin	3	Clock, ...	10 00
A. T. Yeaton	4	Furniture	16 50
T. B. Wait	5	Hardware	8 88
Salem Dray & Hack Co	6	Plowing garden	2 50
Lyman Blakely	7	Sawing wood	8 00
T. H. Wilson	8	Wood	8 00
Lyman Blakely	9	Sawing wood and garden work, ...	8 25
Statesman	10	Advertising	3 00
J. W. Crawford	11	Water pipes and stove fixtures	190 95
A. C. Leabo	12	Slab wood	2 00
A. W. Drager	13	Wood	27 00
Lyman Blakely	14	Gardening	6 00
J. M. Rosenberg	15	Dry Goods	35 20
Salem D & H. Co.	16	Moving piano	2 50
T. L. Davidson	17	Butter	9 33
Louisa Lewis	18	Chamber work	4 00
O. E. Moor	19	Cash expended	13 80
Allie Ruggles	20	Cook	35 00
O. E. Moor	21	Superintendent and Teacher	300 00
Mrs. C. E. Moor	21	Matron	75 00
Mrs. J. Patterson	22	Music teacher	108 05
S. Farrar & Co.	23	Groceries	144 26
Wheeler Bros.	24	Milk	6 00
Howard & Millican	25	Meat	24 18
L. L. Rowland	26	Medical attendance	17 00
C. Snowden	27	Rent and mattress	154 00
Salem Water Co	28	Water	10 00
Lyman Blakely	29	Sawing wood	15 00
B. Coffey	30	Wood	107 88
L. Blakely	31	Sawing wood	14 50
C. Snowden	32	Rent	175 00
W. E. Col. and N. P. Co	33	Expressage	25 30
J. M. Rosenberg	34	Dry Goods	18 92
G. P. Litchfield	35	Groceries	56 00
Howard & Millican	36	Meat	24 88
Mrs. C. E. Moor	37	Matron	75 00
C. H. Chapman	38	Milk	5 66
O. E. Moor	39	Superintendent and teacher	300 00
H. M. Holman	40	Music teacher	42 00
Allie Ruggles	41	Cook	32 00
H. D. Boon	42	Stationery	11 00
George Sun	43	Washing	4 50
A. T. Yeaton	44	Chairs	13 33
L. L. Rowland	45	Medical attendance	28 00
A. P. Venner	46	Piano work	12 00
H. M. Holman	47	Music teacher	36 00
D. W. Matthews	48	Stationery	6 50
O. H. Chapman	49	Milk	8 33
H. M. Holman	50	Music teacher	36 00
Allie Ruggles	51	Cook	32 00
A. D. Ashelman	52	Milk	6 80
Chung Day	53	Sawing wood	2 25
H. M. Holman	54	Music teacher	36 00
George Sun	55	Washing	10 50
D. W. Prentice	56	Rent of Organ	10 50
Howard & Millican	57	Meat	62 26
S. Farrar & Co	58	Groceries	124 09
Allie Ruggles	59	Cook	16 00
O. E. Moor	60	Superintendent and teacher	373 36
Mrs. O. E. Moor	61	Matron	93 36
O. Snowden	62	Rent	150 00

EXPENDITURES—CONTINUED.

NAME	NO VOUCHER	FOR WHAT DRAWN.	AMOUNT.
Salem Water Co., ...	63	Water	\$ 12 00
H. D. Boon	64	Stationery	8 50
J. W. Crawford	65	Stove fixtures	10 55
Lue Lewis	66	Chamber work	10 00
L. L. Rowland	67	Medical attendance	41 00
George Sun	68	Washing	6 00
A. D. Ashelman	69	Milk	5 00
Allie Ruggles	70	Cook	28 00
C. E. Moor	71	Freight on books	5 34
A. D. Ashelman	72	Milk	5 00
H. M. Holman	73	Music teacher	50 00
George Sun	74	Washing	6 00
H. M. Holman	75	Music teacher	36 00
Mrs. C. E. Moor	76	Matron	75 00
C. E. Moor	77	Superintendent and teacher	300 00
H. M. Holman	78	Music teacher	30 00
C. Snowden	79	Rent	150 00
Howard & Millican	80	Meat	70 15
S. Farrar & Co.	81	Groceries	119 81
A. D. Ashelman	82	Milk	7 50
Jake, (Chinaman)	83	Cook	25 00
Salem Water Co.	84	Water	9 00
Lou Lewis	85	Chamber work	7 00
George Sun	86	Washing	6 00
H. D. Boon	87	Stationery	7 28
Prof. Parvin	88	Work on piano	3 50
Lyman Blakely	89	Sawing wood	16 86
George Sun	90	Washing	6 00
H. M. Holman	91	Music teacher	50 00
Prof. Parvin	92	Work on organ and piano	2 00
Jake, (Chinaman)	93	Cook	23 00
Salem Water Co.	94	Water	3 00
T. H. Wilson	95	Team work in garden	5 00
S. Farrar & Co.	96	Groceries	28 50
Howard & Millican	97	Meat	28 65
L. L. Rowland	98	Medical attendance	12 00
D. W. Prentice	99	Rent of organ	19 50
Lermit, Ashelman & Co	100	Milk	7 50
C. Snowden	101	Wood	37 00
C. Snowden	102	Rent	150 00
C. Snowden	103	Garden work	2 00
C. E. Moor	104	Superintendent and teacher	300 00
Mrs. C. E. Moor	105	Matron	75 00
S. Farrar & Co.	106	Sugar	14 04
C. Snowden	107	Wood	25 00
Johnson, Lunn & Co	108	Carpet	22 25
Capital Lumbering Co	109	Lumber	1 16
C. Snowden	110	Rent	110 00
J. W. Crawford	111	Stove and fixtures	15 64
Salem Grange Co	112	Groceries	11 96
Lou Rowe	113	House cleaning	4 00
C. E. Moor	114	Superintendent and teacher	220 00
Mrs. C. E. Moor	115	Matron	55 00
C. Snowden	116	Work	10 75
Geo. Sun	...	...	7 50
E. S. Lermit	117	Butter	3 00
A. D. Ashelman	118	Milk	6 00
Salem Water Co.	119	Water	3 00
Lyman Blakely	120	Sawing wood	15 00
Total amt paid out to Sept. 6, 1884			\$ 5,535 96

EXPENDITURES—CONTINUEE.

The following vouchers have been issued for expense incurred from Sept 6, 1884, to Jan 1, 1885

NAME.	NO. VOUCHER.	FOR WHAT DRAWN.	AMOUNT.
George Sun.....	121	Washing	\$ 8 00
Chinaman.....	122	Washing.....	8 00
D. W. Prentice.....	123	Piano	300 00
A. D. Ashelman.....	124	Milk.....	8 50
William Wright.....	125	Housing potatoes.....	2 50
B F McLench.....	126	Butter	11 40
S Farrar & Co.....	127	Groceries	62 52
Lou Rowe.....	128	Cook	60 00
Lang Sung.....	129	Washing.....	12 00
A. D. Ashelman.....	130	Milk.....	8 50
H. M. Holman.....	131	Music teacher.....	187 50
C. E. Moor.....	132	Superintendent and teacher.....	380 00
Mrs O. E. Moor.....	133	Matron	95 00
C. Snowden.....	134	Rent	190 00
Lyman Blakely.....	135	Sawing wood.....	15 50
A. N. Gilbert.....	136	Groceries.....	51 73
D. O. Howard.....	137	Meat	89 69
Salem Water Co.....	138	Water	9 00
G. Stoltz & Co.....	139	Apple butter, &c.	4 50
L. L. Rowland.....	140	Medical attendance.....	8 25
Prof. Parvin.....	141	Violin lessons.....	9 50
Johnson, Lunn & Co.....	142	Dry goods	14 56
Lou Lewis.....	143	Chamber maid.....	15 00
A. D. Ashelman.....	144	Milk.....	5 66
H. M. Holman.....	145	Printed music.....	3 42
Total amt. of unpaid vouchers.....			\$ 1,557 73
Total amt. paid out.....			5,535 98
Total amt. expenses.....			\$ 7,093 71

The amount of the original appropriation which reverted to the State on the 8th day of September 1884, was \$24,641.02. This amount should be re-appropriated at the earliest practicable day, so that the current expenses accruing since the 8th day of September aforesaid shall be met as well as the subsequent expenses that must be incurred from Jan. 1, 1885, to the close of the present school year, which ends March 15, 1885.

REMARKS.

There are thirty-two institutions for the education of the blind in the United States and every State contributes to their support. It is thought not only to be an act of benevolence but good economy also to educate them.

"It is apparently a law of nature that an average number of the human family are born blind or become so by age, disease or accident. Statistics show a remarkable uniformity in this average." "In the northern and western States the proportion is one blind person to every 1100. In the southern States, there is one blind to every 1025 persons." This larger number is probably due to the warmer climate, and the greater number of the uneducated class. In 1879, Congress appropriated \$250,000 to endow a printing house, which is situated at Louisville, Ky., to make books especially for this class of persons. This school has received books to the value of nearly \$100 from the American Printing House. There are no greater and more effective auxiliaries in the instruction of the blind than educational appliances and books. The great book of Nature, with its numberless pages of beauty, its endless variety of scenery and its ever-changing aspect of sea and sky, is constantly before the seeing. The achievements of art can be enjoyed by them at all times and seasons, and literature gives them daily food. But different from this is the condition of the blind. How limited are their privileges compared with the seeing. I believe the day is not far distant when these people of misfortune will drink as deep from the depths of literature and science as the seeing. Whenever we read to them they give very close attention, and manifest an appreciation that is very pleasant to the reader and pays him well for all his trouble. But how much more happy is the pupil when he can sit with open book, with no need of an interpreter to stand between the author and himself. There are three systems of embossed books in the library of this school. The Philadelphia system, or line letter, the N. Y. Point, and the Moon system. And in the United States there are two other systems, the old and new Braille. But why not adopt a single system?

ERRATA.

On page 10, second line, for \$24,641.02, read \$2,464.02.

On page 12, five lines from bottom, for "carpenter-work," read "cooper-work."

It would certainly be better to have one system that all can read. But it is not an easy thing to do. We believe the N. Y. Point to be the best and we have adopted it in our school, but there being so many useful books in the other systems, and especially in the line letter, they cannot well be dispensed with. And this system will continue to be used for many years.

It is clearly demonstrated that the blind can be educated to an extent that surprises those who are not informed on the subject. The advancement is necessarily slow, because we have very few text books that are of any practical use to us. In this school, we have none except reading books, and some spelling books we have made ourselves. The absence of text books compels the pupils, out of school hours, to work one with another to fix in their minds that which has been read to them by the teacher. Failing to remember the points, they are obliged to seek the room of the teacher or wait till the next recitation, in which case much valuable time is lost. But as this occurs day after day, they become discouraged. All this can be obviated by having the proper text books placed within their reach. How much more lasting is the point searched out by the pupil than to make it a mere surface work by telling. The best, and perhaps the only way to get suitable text books at present, is to make them as the class progresses. This we can do with the New York Point system. The lessons may be condensed by the teacher, and put into print by the pupil. Five spelling books have been made here during the year which contain a very large part of the words in Watson's Speller. They are somewhat imperfect, but, considering our limited experience, I think they are a credit to the pupils. The blind are taught almost everything, in the best schools of this country, that the seeing are taught in the common and high schools, and learn with equal or greater rapidity, with the same or as good opportunities. There is no obstruction to thought. Their minds grasp an idea as eagerly as the hungry child its food. An idea must be presented to them, so they can see it. Their minds must have food. They must see the world and its beauties with the mind; and they cannot do this unless their minds are cultivated. With education, they are cheerful and happy and self-sustaining. Education is very important to them. It makes a greater difference with them than with any other class. They should be taught to work. A school for the blind is not more than half a school without an industrial department.

The whole number of blind persons in the United States, according to the last census, was 49,000 in round numbers. Of this number, there were only 2,295 in all the schools of the country, United

States and territories. At that time, 6,650 had graduated or otherwise left the schools. The reports show that 16 became superintendents of other institutions; 214 became teachers or otherwise employed in their own or other institutions; 34, ministers of the gospel; 84, authors, publishers, and lecturers, and 310 engaged as teachers of music and vocalists outside; 69, organists in churches; 125, piano tuners; 937 engaged as teachers, employers and workers in handicraft; 277, storekeepers; 45, owners and managers of real estate; 760, (chiefly females) at housework, at home or in families, with sewing machines, plain sewing and knitting; 76, in homes of employment. Of the 6,650 graduates, only 118 became incapacitated. Comment is unnecessary.

In May and June, 1884, I visited three of the best schools for the blind in this country, viz.: New York City, Boston and Philadelphia, and remained three or four days in each school. I learned much in these schools that is of great benefit to me in the management of the Oregon school. These schools are conducted upon the principle that the blind can be and should be taught to do everything the seeing can do, except to see. They all have an industrial department connected with them for boys and girls, and no school is considered complete without this department. An effort is made to give these people such an education as will make them self-supporting. As a class, they desire employment, not *alms*. They are also ambitious to learn, and are very industrious students. They know their friends and are appreciative of every kindness.

There are at present in the Oregon school eleven pupils. With this number, and good economy, the running expenses can be met with four thousand dollars a year.

The school needs an organ. At present we hire the one we use. We need dissected maps of Physical Geography of the United States, of Asia and of Europe, made expressly for the blind, which will cost \$170; also Philosophical and other apparatus and educational appliances, and I ask for \$500 to be expended for these purposes.

An industrial department ought to be organized, a room fitted up with the necessary appliances to teach the girls all kinds of plain and fancy sewing and knitting; a shop provided for the boys, and the necessary tools obtained for carpenter-work, broom-making and mattress-making. This department will need a teacher, who may be a blind man, from some of the shops of the eastern States, and can be obtained at a small salary. And for this department I hope for an appropriation of \$1,000 for the two years.

RECEPTION OF PUPILS.

All blind persons residing in the State who are suitable for and desire to become scholars, will be received free of charge. But they are expected to provide themselves with toilet articles, and such extra furniture as they may desire.

Persons wishing to enter the school will make application to the Superintendent by letter or in person.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Board of Education for their efficient co-operation and words of encouragement. Without this active and earnest support, on the part of the Board, the school could not have been successfully organized. The trying circumstances under which the school management has at times been placed, and the occasional embarrassment caused by injudicious and harmful suggestions (entirely foreign to the best interests of the school) made emphatic by their ultimate import; these, and other difficulties, have been almost entirely overcome by the faithful advice and loyal support on part of each and every member of the Board. I have also been aided very much by the encouragement and advice that have come to me from ladies and gentlemen of this city and elsewhere. Prominent among these is a former Principal of this school, Mrs. E. J. Dawne. Respectfully submitted,

C. E. MOOR, Superintendent.

REPORT OF PHYSICIAN.

To the Honorable the State Board of Education, Salem Oregon:

GENTLEMEN—Mine is the pleasing duty to report the remarkable healthfulness of the Oregon School for the Blind, during the biennial term just closing. No manager, teacher, pupil or domestic has died within the time; nor, indeed, has there existed a single case of illness of a grave or protracted character. There have occurred, however, a few mild cases of malarial fever and other kindred ailments. But in all these instances medical aid was promptly summoned, and the patients speedily recovered; and both the State and the school are to be congratulated that all at present connected with this institution are enjoying such excellent health as to assure the best educational results for the ensuing year.

Little can fairly be said in commendation of the school's location, in point of wholesomeness; for the sewerage and drainage of both its own grounds and those of the vicinity, are, to say the least, seriously defective—although, perhaps not more so than is generally the case with other renting property throughout the larger part of the city. Yet the Board unquestionably did the best they could, and, indeed, almost the only thing within their power, in the selection of these grounds and buildings, at the time this duty devolved upon them. Besides, they have since spared no pains in their efforts to render the school, as far as possible, both comfortable and wholesome. It is believed, however, that the Legislature will wisely provide, in the near future, suitable grounds and buildings for the State in which to educate this unfortunate, but deserving class of our youth.

But, however much may be said relative to the unsuitableness of the property now occupied by the School for the Blind, all acquainted with the character of the inner, practical working of the institution will cheerfully agree that the Board did wisely in their choice of the

intelligent and zealous Superintendent and Matron, who have served the State in this capacity so faithfully and efficiently for the last two years, and to whose hygienic and sanitary conduct of the school is very largely due the past and present healthfulness of all its inmates.

Respectfully submitted,

L. L. ROWLAND, M. D.,

Physician to the Or. S. B.

N. E. CORNER COURT AND LIBERTY STS.,
SALEM, Oregon, Dec. 13, 1884.